

# State Library of North Carolina

## UPDATE

<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us>

March 2002

### The Very Best Place to Start

#### *Start with your Librarian*

What's the toughest—the most interesting—the most engaging question your reference desk has heard lately? Does it have a North Carolina flavor? Did your reference team turn to the Web or to traditional sources for the answer? Did it require expert help to figure out?

*The very best place to start* team wants to know.

We are packaging your best questions and answers in a special feature that will be shared with newspapers across the state this spring and summer.

"*Start with your Librarian*" initially will feature 25 brief columns, designed to run weekly in local papers or to be easily adapted for your Friends newsletters and Web pages.

The 25 Q&As selected will be shared with local newspapers in early summer, but public libraries will preview the selected questions in advance of the newspaper distribution. Your preview packet will include ideas about how to adapt the feature to include local questions and answers if you choose—or you can use the selected questions "as is." The packet will include tips on how to encourage local papers to print the feature and how to strengthen relationships with the local press.

"*Start with your Librarian*" is designed to help spread the word that libraries and librarians are *the very best place to start* for expert help!

You will hear more details later. But first things first. We need your questions. They should be topical or timeless, focus on North Carolina or North Carolinians, require expert help, and require print and/or electronic resources for the answers. And they should be fun!

Submit your best questions by April 15th: by e-mail to <starthere@library.dcr.state.nc.us> or by fax to 919-733-8748, Attn: *Start with your Librarian*.

Libraries whose questions are chosen for the final 25 will be eligible for a prize drawing. Improve your chances of

#### *Making the Most of the Tag Line*

What do you do when a wanted murderer on the lam from the law is captured in your library amidst a flurry of guns-drawn police, and the news media turn up? Well, you place yourself beside your twirling "*The very best place to start*" mobile, put on a smile, and await the microphone. That's exactly what Library Director Mike Taylor and his staff did—and they even managed to work in the tag line, "The very best place to start"—20 to life that is.

Kudos to the fine folks at the Pender County Public Library who demonstrated that there is nothing quite so handy as a little quick thinking, lots of poise, and a talking point or two.

winning by submitting as many questions and answers as you like.

But please keep the questions and answers to 100 words or less, and include your references, of course!!

#### *Promotional Materials*

Free materials are still available for promoting your library as *the very best place to start*. There are mousepads, display cards, trading cards, and stickers for the Start Squad Kids' Portal; mobiles and stickers for *the very best place to start*; and Hispanic services bookmarks and double-sided posters. Plans are under way for producing additional travel mugs along with the second series of Start Squad trading cards which will feature four more characters from the Start Squad site. Libraries will be notified when these are produced.

Materials may be ordered through the online form available at <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/forms/vbpts/orderform.htm>>. These materials are free to libraries and there is no charge for shipping.

For additional information, contact Timothy Owens at <[towens@library.dcr.state.nc.us](mailto:towens@library.dcr.state.nc.us)>.

## Continuing Education (CE)

The State Library's Continuing Education Program Web site has added a NEW FEATURE. When a class is listed on the Website schedule as "closed" it is now possible to select a link and provide feedback about the class you wish you could have taken. The link may be found at <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/forms/ceinterest.htm>>. Continuing education staff are gathering this information and will use it to help plan future workshop sessions. The form also may be used to convey any ideas or suggestions you may have about how the State Library can improve its CE program.

The CE Web site, <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/ce/Sp2002Schedule.htm>>, tracks the availability of workshops, notes the number of available spaces, links to pertinent travel directions, and now provides a link to a handy chronological sequence.

Librarians from around the state requested that the State Library provide training in *Basic HTML*, *Legal Reference Services and Resources*, and *Networking*, and these workshops will be offered this spring. A brochure listing all of the spring courses has been posted at <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/ce/ceopps.htm>>. The State Library sponsored workshops such as these in public library Gates' computer labs for the first time in Fall, 2001, and will continue to use these facilities this spring with 8 sessions being offered in a different set of labs.



### **NC LIVE**

The Continuing Education Program provides training in *NC LIVE Basics*, *NC LIVE Medical and Health Sciences Resources*, *NC LIVE Ready Reference*, and *NC LIVE Trains the Trainer*. The

complete brochure for the NC LIVE training spring schedule is available at <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/ce/nclivespring2002.pdf>>.

### **Resource Sharing**

Two new ILL workshops are now being offered. The initial set of workshops is an introduction to OCLC Interlibrary Loan and covers basic searching and the essentials of functionality for both new and selective users of interlibrary loan. For those staff members who have experience with ILL there is *ILL Refresh and Review* which covers discussions of work flow alternatives and other more advanced topics in interlibrary loan. More on ILL workshops is available at <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/ce/Sp2002ILLBro.pdf>>

For more information contact Jeanne Crisp at <[jcrisp@library.dcr.state.nc.us](mailto:jcrisp@library.dcr.state.nc.us)>.

## Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA)

### **North Carolina's LSTA Advisory Committee**

North Carolina's multi-year LSTA Plan describes the LSTA Advisory Committee's responsibilities in this way: "The nine-member LSTA Advisory Committee will provide leadership for the federal library program in North Carolina. The committee will have responsibility for advising the State Librarian on LSTA needs, plans, priorities, and policies; annual plans and funding priorities; and evaluation of the LSTA program. The members: will be leaders in the library community; will be broadly representative of all types of libraries and library users; and should reflect the characteristics of North Carolina and its people."

This advisory committee is a working group that meets in person approximately three times a year and conducts some work by telephone conference call. Each member serves a three-year term, with three members cycling off each year. Every spring the State Library issues invitations to key library organizations in the state to nominate individuals to fill upcoming openings on the committee. The current committee considers all nominations received and then makes recommendations to the State Librarian who makes the final appointments. Nominations are currently due on April 2, 2002.

Newly appointed members begin their term in late spring/early summer and the first meeting they attend traditionally includes the out-going members to strengthen continuity.

### **Roster of 2001-2002 LSTA Advisory Committee**

**Chair:** Patricia Thibodeau (5/03), Duke University Medical Center Library, Durham

#### **Members:**

Margaret Blanchard (5/04), Director, Central North Carolina Regional Library, Burlington

Dale Gaddis (5/03), Director, Durham County Library, Durham

Karen Gavigan (5/03), Teacher Education Resource Center, University of North Carolina Greensboro

Kate Hickey (5/02), Director, Carol Grotnes Belk Library, Elon University, Elon

James R. Kuhlman (5/04), University Librarian, D. Hiden Ramsey Library, The University of North Carolina at Asheville

Willie Nelms (5/02), Director, Sheppard Memorial Library, Greenville

Karen Perry (5/02), Central Davidson Middle School, Lexington

Daniel F. Swartout (5/04), Director of Libraries, Learning Resources Center, Edgecombe Community College, Tarboro

### ***LSTA Grant Application Deadline***

Applications are due March 27, 2002 from North Carolina public, academic, and school libraries wishing to apply for LSTA funds to implement grant projects in 2002-2003.

For additional information on the LSTA program, contact Penny Hornsby <phornsby@library.dcr.state.nc.us>.

### **Youth Services**

Jim Rosinia, Youth Services Consultant, stays busy with the "big three" of Youth Services.

### ***Public Library Quiz Bowl***

Now that the Quiz Bowl Committee has created a set of questions for the District Competitions, which will be held on March 23rd, work has begun on the State Finals. The Finals will be held on Saturday, April 27th, at the WUNC-TV studios in Research Triangle Park and will, once again, be broadcast live. The success of all Quiz Bowl competitions depends on the quality of questions asked and now you can contribute questions to the database online. Just point your browser to <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/Forms/qbowl.htm>> and fill in the form.

### ***Statewide Summer Reading Program***

Even as materials for the 2002 Summer Reading Program, "Exercise Your Mind. . . Read!," are being shipped to libraries across the state, the committee for the 2003 Program has begun its work. "Mission: R.E.A.D." ("Mission: Read to Explore And Discover") will build upon the success and visibility of the Kids' Portal by using new artwork created by North Carolina native, Chris Loyd. Loyd is the artist who created and designed the characters of the "Start Squad" and related graphics on the Kids' Portal <<http://startsqad.org>>.

### ***Kids' Portal***

StartSquad.org can honestly boast of having the Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval: the Kids' Portal appeared in Good Housekeeping's Site of the Day newsletter <<http://www.gh-siteoftheday.com/>>!

Speaking of the Start Squad, the Portal Collection Development Team, a group of public and school librarians chaired by Margaret Miles (New Hanover Public Library), met on February 6th to discuss the maintenance of the Kids' Portal. Sites will be identified and evaluated by the Team. At the beginning of the summer, a new collection of sites will be added to the database. If you have a site you'd like the Team to consider, submit it at <<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/Forms/kpsites.htm>>.

For additional information, contact Jim Rosinia at <[jrosinia@library.dcr.state.nc.us](mailto:jrosinia@library.dcr.state.nc.us)>.

### **North Carolina Center for the Book**



With support from the North Carolina Center for the Book, the Humanities Extension/Publications Program of NC State University, the NC Center for the Study of South Asia, the Triangle South Asia Consortium and the Triangle Institute for Security Studies, public libraries responded to communities' concerns in the aftermath of September 11th.

**WHO:** Experts—Professors of Political Science, and History from NC State University, UNC-Chapel Hill, UNC-Wilmington, and Wake Forest University who are specialists in Islamic civilization, the modern Middle East, the Arab-Israeli conflict, the creation of Pakistan, government and politics in South Asia, U. S. foreign policy, international negotiations and arms control, and U. S. national security policy. Participants—people of all ages, from all parts of the community, and from all walks of life came to listen, learn, and talk about their concerns.

**WHAT:** Democracy in action—educational programs hosted in public libraries. So that people could continue to inform themselves after the program ended, libraries provided recommended reading lists and web sites of interest (developed by the library with input from the visiting scholar and from the North Carolina Center for the Book).

**WHEN:** November, 2001 - March, 2002

**WHERE:** Bladen, Currituck, Dare, and Durham County Libraries, George H. and Laura E. Brown Library (Washington), H. D. Cooley Library (Nashville), H. Leslie Perry Memorial Library (Henderson), Kill Devil Hills Branch Library, Kinston-Lenoir County Public Library, McDowell County Public Library, New Bern-Craven County Public Library, New Hanover County Public Library, Randolph County Public Library, Scotland County Memorial Library, and the Thomasville Public Library.

**WHY:** To offer a user-friendly site for a community forum. The public library's role as a community center offers something unique, available nowhere else: free access to experts and the open exchange of ideas AND free, open access to a world of information. When the program is over, the lifelong learning continues. What you've learned or been introduced to in the previous hour can be expanded with materials (books, magazines, Internet sites, videos, and more) in both factual and literary formats. And to guide you through this wealth of material, the library provides its own experts—librarians!! What a deal!

For more information, contact Frannie Ashburn at <[fashburn@library.dcr.state.nc.us](mailto:fashburn@library.dcr.state.nc.us)>.

### Tar Heel Libraries

The State Library and the North Carolina Library Association (NCLA) have joined together to bring back **Tar Heel Libraries**, "*The Newsletter of the North Carolina Library Community*." Scheduled to start this spring, this quarterly publication will promote NCLA to members and potential members by informing them about news, events, projects and people associated with North Carolina libraries and will promote the work of the State Library in a print format that can easily be passed from hand to hand.

Share your library news: send an e-mail to Frannie Ashburn <fashburn@library.dcr.state.nc.us> or Kevin Cherry <kcherry@library.dcr.state.nc.us>.

### Access to Special Collections

North Carolina ECHO, "Exploring Cultural Heritage Online," continues the process of providing greater access to the holdings of the state's archives, libraries, and museums. The NC ECHO survey has met with and surveyed 180 of the 771 cultural institutions from around the state, gathering information and consulting with local cultural caretakers. Its continuing education program will sponsor a full-scholarship digitization institute at the School of Information and Library Science at UNC-Chapel Hill the week of May 13th-17th and, in conjunction with the Federation of North Carolina Historical Societies, will hold five *Hometown History* workshops.

*Hometown History* is a practical workshop designed to aid local libraries and historical societies by providing basic information about how to collect, preserve, and provide access to local history materials.

For more information about NC ECHO and its continuing education program, visit the Web site at [NCECHO.org](http://NCECHO.org) or contact Kevin Cherry at <kcherry@library.dcr.state.nc.us>.

### Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped (LBPH)

The application for service from the North Carolina Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH) is now available via the State Library website <statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us> (just follow the link to the Library for the Blind). This means faster service for new library users.

Prior to a citizen's receiving service, an application must be completed and signed by a certifying authority verifying that the applicant cannot read standard print due to a

visual or physical disability. The application process is mandated by the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, which supplies the special cassette tape players and a majority of the cassette tape and braille book collections to LBPH and other regional libraries across the nation.

Library users pay no postage to receive or return the materials to LBPH thanks to the "Free Matter for the Blind" mailing privilege enjoyed by the library and its registered users. More than 2,000 special-formatted tape, braille, and large print library books are mailed to library users by NCLBPH each day with no postage cost incurred by either the library or its users.

For more information contact Francine Martin at <fmartin@library.dcr.state.nc.us>.

### State Library Commission



Front Row: Sandy Cooper, Ex Officio Member; Nancy Cowal; Theron K. Bell; Martie Smith; Anna Yount; Flora Plyler  
Back Row: G. Templeton (Tem) Blackburn, II; Ross Holt; Carl (Chip) Short, Chair; Plummer Alston (Al) Jones, Jr.; Ed Sheary; Phillip Barton  
Members Not Pictured: Lila Friday; Emily Boyce; Margaret Rogers Hunt; Melva Sloan

The State Library Commission met on January 24, 2002, and bid farewell to retiring members who have served the body well for a number of years. As noted by Chair of the Commission Chip Short, one of the group's first activities when he joined it was to interview Sandy Cooper for the position of State Librarian. Governor Easley's new appointments to the Commission are expected soon.

### Genealogical Services

Pam Toms, Supervisor of Genealogical Services, represented the State Library as a guest speaker for a Duke University graduate Psychology course on February 27th, "Ethnicity, Culture, and Family Processes." Pam, who talks about "family" almost constantly each work day, notes that the eight-member class was a striking representation of the American family, a "veritable melting pot," with Asian, Russian, Ukrainian, African American, Native American, Irish, English, and Austrian students.